GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
DEFENCE
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:3951
ANSWERED ON:13.12.2001
PROJECT SEABIRD
VINAY KUMAR SORAKE

Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether there has been an inordinate delay in the implementation of project Seabird for setting up of a new Naval Base at Karwar which was to be completed by 1995;

(b) if so, whether the project outlay has shot up from Rs. 350 crores in 1985 to Rs. 1294 crores in 1995 despite reduction in scope by more than 50%;

(c) if so, whether the rehabilitation programme for the displaced families is also far from completion; and

(d) the time by which the project is likely to be completed?

Answer

MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES)

(a) to (d): A statement is attached.

STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PARTS (a) TO (d) OF LOK SABHA UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 3951 13.12.2001

In August 1985 the Ministry of Defence approved the construction of a Naval Base at Karwar at an initial estimated expenditure of Rs. 350.00 crores. The initial estimates were indicative and were made without a Master Plan and a Detailed Project Report.The scope of work, different Sub components of the Dockyard and details regarding supporting Infrastructure had not been worked out.In the year 1989 a consultant was appointed to a draw the Master Plan and Detailed Project Report for Phase-1A& 1-B of the Project.The Consultant submitted his report in 1990. However, the Project could not progress further due to financial constraints. Based on the Final Project Report, with reduced scope of Phase-I, when compared with the initial proposal and keeping in view the escalation of price level in the meantime, the Ministry of Defence finally approved in October 1995 the construction of the Phase-I of the Project at a projected cost of Rs. 1294.41 crores.

2. The rehabilitation package finalized in consultation with the State Government, included interalia, a cash allowance and a house site, education stipend and relief for food and medicines. The rehabilitation programme has been finalized at a total amount of Rs. 126.96 crores and State Government of Karnataka has already been paid a sum of Rs. 117.02 crores.The Balance amount will be paid on Audit of accounts.

3. The project is scheduled to be completed by 2005.